

Application No. 10/760,496
Responsive to Office action dated April 6, 2007
Attorney Docket No. FS-F03224-01

Remarks

1. Amendments

By the present Amendment, claims 1, 10, and 15 have been amended. Upon entry of the present Amendment, claims 1, 4-24, 26-28 and 33-34 will be pending in the application.

2. Comments

Paragraph 3: rejection of claims 1-18 (error of 1, 4-24, 26-28 and 33-34) under 35 U.S.C.102(a)

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the claims overcome this rejection.

Paragraph 5: rejection of claims 1, 4-9, 22-24, 26 and 33-34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1, 4-9, 22-24, 26 and 33-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Okada et al (US 6,210,983) (Okada'983), Oya et al (US 2002/0,048,732) (Oya'732), Oya et al (US 2003/0,235,791) (Oya'791), Oyamada et al US 2003/0,087,204 (Oyamada'204), Winslow et al (US 5,891,615) (Winslow'615) and Purol et al (US 5,236,816) (Purol'816).

The compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the present invention is represented by the following formula (I):

A-(W)_n-B formula (I)

wherein, the reducing group represented by A is a 3-pyrazolidone group.

A 3-pyrazolidone group as the reducing group is not disclosed in Okada.

The compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the

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present invention is a chemical sensitizer, which increases sensitivity notwithstanding the presence or absence of sensitizing dye. Examples 1 to 3 in the present application disclose the effect of the compound in the absence of sensitizing dye. The compound No.71 having a 3-pyrazolidone group as a reducing group in the present invention improves raw stock storability and image stability such as print-out resistance.

Okada discloses a compound of the formula: X-L₁-D, wherein D is an electron donative group, X is an adsorption promoting group, and L₁ is a valence bond or linking group. The electron donative group represented by D is preferably an amino group, a hydrazino group, a hydroxylamino group, a hydroxamic acid group, a semicarbazido group or a hydroxyl-semicarbazido. More preferably, X is an amino group, a hydrazino group or a semicarbazido group (column 5, lines 1-8). Specific examples in column 13-14 discloses compounds 7, 8 and 9 which contain a hydroxyurea group.

Okada does not disclose the compound having a 3-pyrazolidone group as a reducing group in the present invention.

Winslow discloses a 3-pyrazolydones as reducing agent as reducing agent for organic silver salt. Purol discloses phenidones as super-additive developing agent contained in developing solution at conventional wet-processing photography.

In Winslow or Purol, 3-pyrazolydone is an independent molecule.

On the contrary, the compound having an adsorptive group to silver halide and a reducing group in the present invention has 3-pyrazolydone group as one partial part of a molecule.

A declaration under 37C.F.R.1.132 is attached hereto. The results obtained by the additional experiments set forth in the declaration demonstrates that 3-pyrazolydone contained in the image forming layer resulted in increase of

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fog without increase of sensitivity, and degradation in image stability. It is clearly understood that 3-pyrazolydone as a molecule has no effect of the compound having an adsorptive group to silver halide and a reducing group in the present invention.

Therefore, Winslow or Purol do not disclose or suggest the compound having an adsorptive group to silver halide and a reducing group in the present invention.

Oyal'732 discloses the development accelerator represented by formulae (1) and (2), Oya'791 does a compound represented by formulae (2) and (3) and Oyamada'204 discloses the development accelerator represented by formulae (2) and (3).

However, Oya'732, Oya'791 and Oyamada'204 does not disclose nor suggest the compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the present invention.

Therefore, the combination the combination of Okada'983, Oya'732, Oya'791 and Oyamada'204, Winslow'615 and Purol'816 could not achieve the present invention. It would not have been obvious for a worker of ordinary skilled in the art at that time to achieve the invention.

It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Paragraph 6: rejection of claims 10-14 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 10-14 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada'983 in combination with Tsuzuki et al (US 5,677,121) (Tsuzuki'121) and EP 1096310A2 (EP'310), Winslow'615 and Purol'816.

As discussed above, Okada'983 does not disclose or suggest the compound having an adsorption group and a 3-pyrazolidone group as a reducing

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group in the present invention. Furthermore, as discussed above, Winslow'615 and Purol'816 also do not disclose or suggest the compound having an adsorption group and a 3-pyrazolidone group as a reducing group in the present invention.

Tsuzuki'121 and EP'310 also do not disclose or suggest the compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the present invention.

Therefore, the combination of Okada'983, Tsuzuki'121, EP'310, Winslow'615 and Purol'816 could not achieve the present invention.

It would not have been obvious for a worker of ordinary skilled in the art at that time to achieve the invention.

It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Paragraph 7: rejection of claims 15-21, 28 under 35 U.S.C.103(a)

Claims 15-21 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Okada'983 and Fukui et al.(US 2002/0102502A1), Winslow'615 and Purol'816.

As discussed above, Okada does not teach or suggest the compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the present invention. Furthermore, as discussed above, Winslow'615 and Purol'816 also do not disclose or suggest the compound having an adsorption group and a 3-pyrazolidone group as a reducing group in the present invention.

Fukui'502 discloses a compound contained in the development accelerator represented by formula (2) in the present invention, but does not disclose nor suggest the compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the present invention

Therefore, the combination of Okada, Fukui, Winslow'615 and Purol'816 could not achieve the present invention.

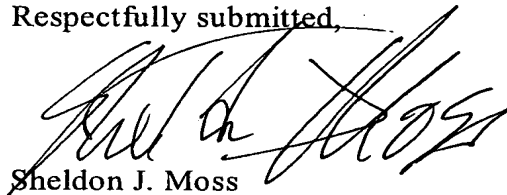
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It would not have been obvious for a worker of ordinary skilled in the art at that time to achieve the invention.

It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sheldon J. Moss', is written over the typed name.

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